[0089] (4) Switching Between a Plurality of Applications

[0090] As explained in (1) to (3) above, the mobile communications device can execute a plurality of applications (for example, e-mail, function-setting, video replay, Internet browser). When the sub-display device **3***b* changes from closed status to open status and becomes usable, the execution result of the application currently being executed on the main display device **3***a* is displayed on the sub-display device **3***b*. This operation is as explained in (1) to (3) above.

[0091] Therefore, when the user pulls out the sub-display device **3***b*, the MPU1 automatically selects display content in accordance with the present usage situation, and displays the content on the sub-display device **3***b*. Thus, a user interface which is easy to use can be provided.

[0092] (5) Switching of Active Screen

[0093] Next, active-screen control that accompanies movement of the sub-display device **3***b* will be explained.

[0094] In **FIG. 14**, the main display device **3***a* displays a menu, and the sub-display device **3***b* displays an execution result of a function selected on the menu. The mobile communications device controls a plurality of display devices with the common operation buttons **8**. Therefore, for example, it is decided selectively which display devices are concerned with input signals from the selector **8***a*, and the user can select a display device to operate by pushing a switching key from among the operation buttons **8**. Here, the display device that is the object of operation is called the active screen.

[0095] **FIG. 14** shows a case where the active screen is the main display device **3***a*, and an oval indicating the selector **8***a* is displayed in the lower center of the screen. Moreover, in order to highlight-display the active screen, icon displays corresponding to the selector **8***a* and the software keys **8***b* are displayed using a highlighting color.

[0096] When the sub-display device **3***b* is changed to closed status from open status, as shown in **FIG. 14**, the MPU **1** detects the change to closed status, and displays the active screen on the main display device **3***a* as shown in FIG. **15**. In addition, since the menu was originally displayed on the main display device **3***a*, essential display content do not change here.

[0097] On the other hand, the sub-display device **3***b* is the active screen in **FIG. 14**, and the MPU **1** operates as follows, with regard to the situation where an oval icon corresponding to the selector **8***a* is displayed on the sub-display device **3***b*. That is, as shown in **FIG. 16**, a video display that was displayed on the active screen when in open status is displayed instead of the menu that was displayed on the main display device **3***a*.

[0098] As mentioned above, since the mobile communications device updates the main display device **3***a* from the content of the active screen when the device changes to closed status, even if it has changed to closed status, the user can continue operations dealing with display content of interest.

[0099] Below, operation details will be explained using **FIG. 17**.

[0100] First, when the MPU **1** starts the execution of an application program (Step S**40**), it receives key input as described above (Step S**41**). Next, the MPU **1** checks whether the main display device **3***a* is the active screen, and if "YES", executes a process decided by the program beforehand based on the received key input, and displays the result on the main display device **3***a* (Step S**43**). Then, the MPU **1** checks the flag (Step S**44**), and performs Steps S**45** and S**47** or S**41** according to the value of the flag.

[0101] When the flag is "2", since there has been a change to closed status, the MPU **1** sets a back-light power supply for the sub-display device **3***b* to OFF (Step S**47**). In addition, at this time the MPU **1** stores in the memory **9** the content displayed by the sub-display device **3***b*, or the processes being executed in the sub-display device **3***b*. It then executes the process of Step S**41** again.

[0102] When the flag is "0", since there has been a change to open status, the MPU **1** sets the back-light power supply for the sub-display device **3***b* to ON (Step S**45**). Next, during the double-display mode it reads the screen composition from the memory **9**, and updates the display content of the main display device **3***a* and the sub-display device **3***b* based on this result (Step S**46**).

[0103] Next, the situation where the main display device **3***a* is not the active screen will be explained. The MPU **1** executes a process decided by the program beforehand based on the received key input, and displays the result on the sub-display device **3***b* (Step S**48**). Then, the MPU **1** checks the flag (Step S**49**), and re-performs Step S**41** when the value of the flag is "1".

[0104] Moreover, when the value of the flag is "2", the MPU **1** sets the back-light power supply for the sub-display device **3***b* to OFF (Step S**50**), and updates the main display device **3***a* with display content displayed by the sub-display device **3***b* (Step S**51**). At this time, as explained in Step S**47**, the MPU **1** records in the memory **9** what was being displayed by the main display device **3***a* and which processing was being performed. Moreover, after processing of Steps S**44**, S**46**, S**47** or S**51** is completed, the MPU **1** executes processing of Step S**41** again. In addition, termination of the application is executed when the MPU **1** detects that a termination key has been pushed at Step S**43** or Step S**48**.

[0105] By the above processes, it becomes possible to always display the active screen, whether the sub-display device **3***b* is opened or closed. In addition, although the above explanation outlines a situation where one application is executed, it is also possible to execute a plurality of applications in parallel on respective display devices. When the sub-display device **3***b* changes to closed status, the handler (resource usage right) of the main display device **3***a* may be turned over to the application that was being executed on the active screen, and execution of the other applications which were not being executed on the active screen may be continued in the background. In addition, when continuing execution in the background, although the handler for the sub-display device **3***b* is transferred to other applications, screen updating may or may not be performed.

[0106] In addition, when executing a plurality of applications in parallel, the content displayed on the main display device **3***a* and the content displayed on the sub-display device **3***b* do not necessarily need to be related.

[0107] Moreover, power-supply control for the back light need not be executed in cases where it is not needed.